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CHAMBER ACTION

The Choice & Innovation Committee recommends the following:

Council/Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing the creation of Section 8 of Article IX of the State Constitution relating to education.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following creation of Section 8 of Article IX of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 8. Equal opportunity to obtain a high quality education.--Every child deserves an equal opportunity to obtain a high quality education, regardless of his or her family's income, religion, or race.

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23 (a) Funding for a high quality public K-12 education
24 through classroom instruction is fundamental. To make adequate
25 provision for a high quality public K-12 education, at least
26 sixty-five percent of school funding received by school
27 districts shall be spent on classroom instruction, rather than
28 administration. Classroom instruction and administration shall
29 be defined by law.

30 (b) Students in prekindergarten through college who have
31 disabilities, are economically disadvantaged, or whose parents
32 request alternatives to traditional public education programs
33 may participate, as provided by law, in education programs that
34 include non-public schools. The legislature may enact and
35 publicly fund prekindergarten through college education
36 programs, without regard to the religious nature of any
37 participant or non-public provider, notwithstanding any other
38 provision of this Article or Section 3 of Article I of this
39 constitution.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
41 placed on the ballot:

42 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

43 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 8

44 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN A HIGH QUALITY
45 EDUCATION.--Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to
46 provide that every child deserves an equal opportunity to obtain
47 a high quality education, regardless of his or her family's
48 income, religion, or race; to provide that funding for high
49 quality public K-12 education through classroom instruction is
50 fundamental; to provide that to make adequate provision for a

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51 | high quality public K-12 education, at least sixty-five percent
52 | of school funding received by school districts shall be spent on
53 | classroom instruction rather than administration; to provide
54 | that classroom instruction and administration shall be defined
55 | by law; to provide that students in prekindergarten through
56 | college who have disabilities, are economically disadvantaged,
57 | or whose parents request alternatives to traditional public
58 | education programs may participate, as provided by law, in
59 | education programs that include non-public schools; and to
60 | provide that the Legislature may enact and publicly fund
61 | prekindergarten through college education programs, without
62 | regard to the religious nature of any participant or non-public
63 | provider, notwithstanding any other provision of this Article or
64 | of Section 3 of Article I of the State Constitution.